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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR  
DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION  
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing       Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16(e)))

Attorney Docket Number		221-0074US
First Named Inventor		ROBERT E. SMITH, III
<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>		
Application Number		
Filing Date		
Art Unit		
Examiner Name		

I hereby declare that:

Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe the inventor(s) named below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**SEAL RETAINER WITH PRESSURE ENERGIZED METAL SEAL MEMBERS FOR UNDERSEA HYDRAULIC COUPLING**

the specification of which

(Title of the Invention)

is attached hereto  
OR  
 was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)  as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number  and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)  (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above:

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365 (a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application	Foreign Filing Date	Priority	Certified Copy Attached?
		<input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

 Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 115 and 37 CFR 1.63. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to:  Customer Number 29855 OR  Correspondence address below

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

Country

Telephone

Fax

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

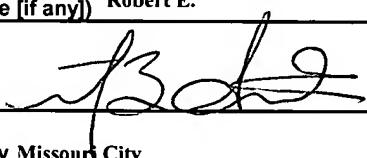
NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR :

A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name  
(first and middle [if any]) Robert E.

Family Name  
or Surname Smith, III

Inventor's  
Signature



Date 14/06/03

Residence: City Missouri City

State TX

Country USA

Citizenship US

Mailing Address 3119 Cypress Point

City Missouri City

State TX

ZIP 77459

Country USA

NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:

A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name  
(first and middle [if any])

Family Name  
or Surname

Inventor's  
Signature

Date

Residence: City

State

Country

Citizenship

Mailing Address

City

State

ZIP

Country

Additional inventors or a legal Representative are being named on \_\_\_\_\_ supplemental sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A or 02LR are attached

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## POWER OF ATTORNEY and CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS INDICATION FORM

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Robert E. Smith, III
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	221-0074US

I hereby appoint:

Practitioners at Customer Number  
**OR**  
 Practitioner(s) named below:

29855

Name	Registration Number

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please recognize or change the correspondence address for the above-identified application to:

The above-mentioned Customer Number.

**OR**

The address associated with Customer Number:

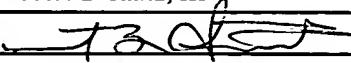
**OR**

<input type="checkbox"/> Firm or Individual Name			
Address			
Address			
City	State	Zip	
Country			
Telephone	Fax		

I am the:

Applicant/Inventor.  
 Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
*Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).*

### SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name	Robert E. Smith, III
Signature	
Date	14 OCT 03
Telephone	281-499-2583

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple

\*Total of \_\_\_\_\_ forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending on the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)**Applicant/Patent Owner: Robert E. Smith, III

Application No./Patent No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Filed/Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Entitled: **SEAL RETAINER WITH PRESSURE ENERGIZED METAL SEAL MEMBERS FOR UNDERSEA HYDRAULIC COUPLING**National Coupling Company, Inc., a Texas Corporation

(Name of Assignee)

(Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1.  the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
2.  an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.  
The extent (by, percentage) of its ownership interest is \_\_\_\_\_ %

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

A. [ ] An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

B. [ ] A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.
2. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.
3. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

[ ] Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

14 Oct 03

Date

281-499-2583

Telephone number

Robert E. Smith, III

Typed or printed name



Signature

Vice President

Title

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 3.73(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETE D FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.